

San Diego City Attorney MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 28, 2008

Contact: Communications Division (619) 235-5725

CITY ATTORNEY URGES CITY COUNCIL ADOPT MANDATORY WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM

San Diego, **CA**—In a memorandum today to the Mayor and City Council, San Diego City Attorney Michael Aguirre urged them to declare a water shortage emergency and implement a mandatory conservation program v. voluntary compliance for residents of the City of San Diego. The item will be heard at this afternoon's City Council, Item #207, Declaration of Water Emergency, Stage 1, Voluntary Compliance Water Watch.

The City Attorney communication states, "Clearly, voluntary conservation measures are insufficient, so declaring a Stage 1 Water Watch as recommended by the Mayor is unlikely to yield any additional water savings. The Mayor and City Council have a legal duty to provide water to City residents. The City Council must adopt a new water conservation ordinance that requires the City to maintain a balance between supply and demand."

Ten months ago, in a memorandum dated, September 21, 2007, City Attorney Aguirre called on the Mayor to declare a water shortage emergency and implement a mandatory water conservation program.

To view both documents, visit www.sandiegocityattorney.org, click "City of San Diego Water Crisis."

###